

Foreign Agricultural Service Turkey Regional NEWS

February 2004

Foreign Agricultural Service, United States Department of Agriculture

With offices in Ankara and Istanbul, Turkey;

Almaty, Kazakhstan and Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Covering Turkey, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan

USDA INCREASES AVAILABLE GSM-102 CREDIT GUARANTEES FOR EXPORT SALES TO TURKEY

On Feb. 4, 2004, the U.S. Department of Agriculture today increased by \$200 million the available credit guarantees for sales of U.S. agricultural commodities to Turkey under the Commodity Credit Corporation's Export Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-102) for fiscal year 2004. This completes the \$400-million allocation originally announced on Dec. 8, 2003. No other GSM credit guarantees are expected for the rest of this fiscal year ending September 30, 2004.

Please note that these credit guarantees only apply to sales where delivery will occur within three months of registration. All other terms and conditions previously announced remain the same.

For further information, contact the Contract and Registration Branch of the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) at (001-202) 720-3224, or by e-mail at AskGSM@fas.usda.gov.

FAS news releases are available on the Internet at <http://www.fas.usda.gov>. For more information about Web access, contact FAS Public Affairs Division at (202) 720-7115.

Upcoming U.S. Trade Shows

International Restaurant & Foodservice Show of New York

March 14 – 16, New York City.

Contact: Tracey Connor

Phone: (001-203 840-5444)

Fax: (001-203 840-9444)

E-mail: tconnor@reedexpo.com

<http://www.newyorkrestaurantshow.com>

Snack Food Association

March 20-23, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

E-mail: sfa@sfa.org

<http://www.sfa.org>

U.S. Food Export Showcase at FMI

May 2-4, Chicago, Illinois

Phone: (001-703 876-0900)

Fax: (001-703 876-0904)

E-mail: nasda@cmgexpo.com

<http://www.usfes.org>

NASFT Fancy Food Show – Spring

May 2-4, Chicago, Illinois

Contact: Heather Paul

Phone: (001-212 482-6440)

Fax: (001-212 482-6459)

E-mail: custserv@fancyfoodshows.com

<http://www.fancyfoodshows.com>

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Upcoming U.S. Trade Shows Continued...

All Things Organic – The Organic Trade Association (OTA)

May 2-4, Chicago, Illinois

Phone: (001-413 774-7511)

E-mail: info@ota.com

<http://www.atoexpo.com/>

National Restaurant Association (NRA)

May 22-25, Chicago, Illinois

National Restaurant Association

Phone: (001-312) 853-2525

E-mail: nraregistration@dineout.org

<http://restaurant.org/show/show>

Recent Agricultural Reports:

- ❖ Turkey Grain and Feed Update

(See summary on page 3.)

- ❖ Turkey Tree Nut Update

- ❖ Kazakhstan Grain and Feed Update

Upcoming Reports:

- ❖ Retail Foods Report

- ❖ Azerbaijan Exporter Guide

All agricultural Reports and Press Releases published by FAS Turkey and our offices around the world are available at:

www.fas.usda.gov

Delay in Implementation of Regulation on Wood Packing Materials

The date for implementation by the United States, Mexico and Canada of ISPM 15 on wood packaging materials has been delayed until the end of 2004 or beginning of 2005.

Notification of this event will be published in the Federal Register and an implementation period is expected to follow. It is not known now how long a period will ensue before full implementation of the standard occurs. The best way to keep apprised of this issue is to read the information contained in the NAPPO website: www.nappo.org. On the bottom of the second screen you will see a section entitled **"Implementation of ISPM No. 15..."**

Click on that and you should have the most recent advisory.

Until the standard is implemented, the current procedure is in effect whereby wood packaging materials are randomly inspected. If quarantine pests are found, the importer most likely will be given the option of treatment (usually by fumigation), re-exportation or destruction.

What Are Trade Leads?

Trade Leads is a USDA program that assists buyers in Turkey to receive timely information and quotes on to foreign buyers who are seeking U.S. food, agricultural, and forest products. For companies wishing to receive quotes with no obligation please submit the following information to agistanbul@fas.usda.gov:

- The buyer's name, address, phone, e-mail and fax.
- Specific products and quantities needed
- Packaging and labeling requirements, if any
- Type of quotation required

For further information, please contact our offices in Ankara (0312-468-6129) or Istanbul (0212-335-9068)

Turkey Grain and Feed Update Summary of GAIN Report TU4001

Turkish corn imports are expected to decrease by 1 million tons in MY 2003, due primarily to a significant increase in corn production. Importers anticipating an increase in corn duties imported significant quantities of corn last summer increasing carryover stocks. Barley exports are also expected to decrease by 400,000 tons in MY 2003 due to lower production and higher feed demand.

Turkish wheat production in MY 2003 (June 2003 - May 2004) decreased slightly to an estimated 16.8 million tons due to lower yields. As a result, Turkey is expected to import slightly higher quantities of wheat. Barley production also decreased slightly in MY 2003 (June 2003 - May 2004) to an estimated 6.9 million tons due to a decrease in yields.

The Turkish Grain Board (TMO) has been given the authority by the Government of Turkey (GOT) to import 250,000 MT of milling wheat. There will be no import duties applied to the purchases. Although TMO is not planning to import the wheat immediately, the GOT authority gives them the flexibility to import the wheat at its own convenience and when market conditions are deemed favorable.

Did you know...

- ❑ **USDA Press Releases** can be obtained by visiting www.fas.usda.gov and clicking on “*News and Information*” and then clicking on “*News Releases*”. From the next page, complete the online form to find news releases by *Country*, *Program*, or *Commodity*.
- ❑ **U.S. Supplier Lists** can be obtained by visiting the same website, clicking on “*Buying U.S. Products*”, and then clicking on “*U.S. Supplier List*”. From the next page, complete the on-line form to obtain an immediate list of exporters by the type of product that you select.

We encourage you to visit the FAS website to look for other valuable information. In the near future, the FAS Ankara website will be updated to contain information relevant to Turkey and the region. In the meantime, feel free to visit www.fasturkey.org

Please notify our office by email at agankara@fas.usda.gov if you know of anyone else who would like to be on the distribution list for this newsletter.

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